GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:407
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
VPT IN ANDHRA PRADESH
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total of Village Public Phones being operated by BSNL in Andhra Pradesh presently;

(b) the number of new Village Public Phones which will be made operational in 2002-2003 by BSNL; and

(c) the steps proposed by BSNL to improve phone services in Andhra Pradesh in the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) In Andhra Pradesh 23,419 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) are being operated by BSNL as on 31.10.2002.

(b) There is no BSNL target to provide (VPTs) in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2002-03 as BSNL has already completed its share of providing VPTs in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The steps being taken to improve the telephone services during the current year are:

(i) Induction of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology in rural network.

(ii) Cellular Mobile Services are being inducted into the network.

(iii) Replacement of MARR based VPTs in a phased manner by landlines/WLL services.

(iv) Provision of Internet Dhabas in all the Mandal Headquarters.